S360S-2

Maryland
Department of Economic & Employment Development

LABOR MARKET DIMENSIONS

MAY, 1991

Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development
Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

William Donald Schaefer, Governor
J. Randall Evans, Secretary

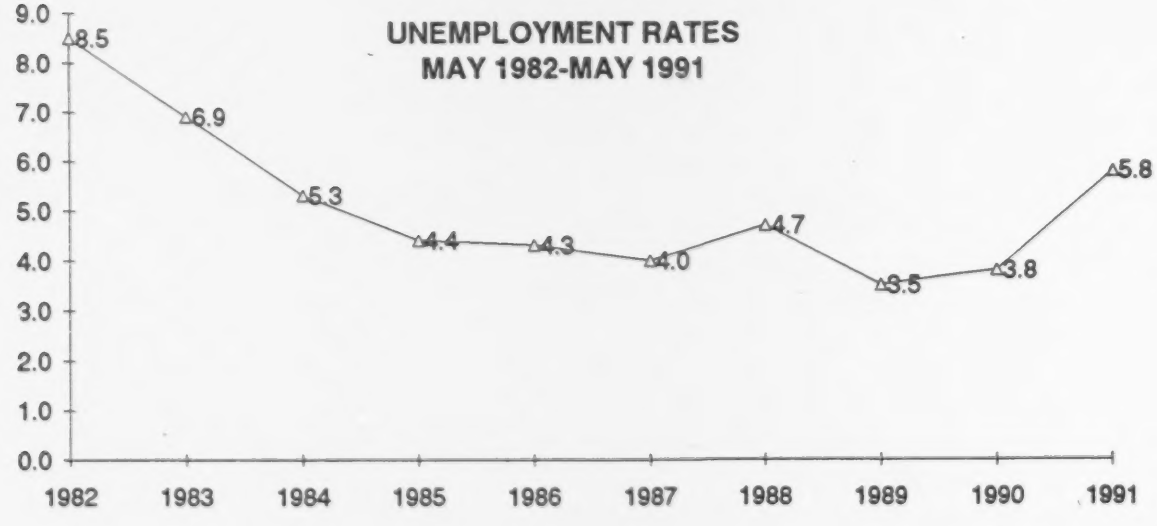
LABOR FORCE DEVELOPMENTS

Maryland's job market sent out mixed signals during May. While employment posted its fourth consecutive monthly gain, the benefit of this employment expansion was diminished by an even greater increase in the number of jobseekers entering the labor market. As a result, unemployment in Maryland inched up from 5.6 percent in April to 5.8 percent in May. The increase in Maryland's jobless estimate was indicative of the national trend which showed unemployment rising from 6.5 percent to 6.6 percent.

During May, nearly 9,000 jobseekers entered the labor market. At the same time, employment, while expanding, grew by just 2,323 persons. This lag in employment growth caused the unemployment count to expand by more than 6,600, raising total unemployment in the state to 148,278 in May.

	May 1991	April 1991	May 1990
Civilian Labor Force	2,543,207	2,534,223	2,542,669
Total Employment	2,394,929	2,392,606	2,445,877
Total Unemployment	148,278	141,617	96,792
Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.6	3.8
National Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.5	5.1

Unemployment increases are not uncommon when an economy is emerging from a recession. While current job market indicators point to a slower than normal growth in seasonal employment, the fact that employment has consistently grown evidences a strengthening in the economy. Employers, while proceeding cautiously in terms of hiring, are, nonetheless, moving in a positive direction. Recent national reports have shown signs that consumer spending is beginning to pick up, albeit slowly. This increase in consumer confidence bodes well for future economics in that it will help to stimulate business activity, providing employers with the impetus to rebuild their workforces.



INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Maryland's employment situation, as measured by nonagricultural payroll activity, continued to improve during May with job gains of about 12,100 raising total at place employment to 2,172,600. Employment, while expanding, still remained well below year ago levels, with all major industry lines contributing to this overall reduction. Last year, a monthly gain of nearly 17,000 moved the job count ahead to a much higher 2,191,500 in May.

Performance in the goods-producing sector during May was mixed. The outcome in this industrial component was, however, determined by a seasonal upswing in the construction industry. Employment gains of about 1,800 in construction cancelled out job losses in manufacturing, resulting in a net gain of about 1,500 jobs in the goods-producing sector during May. All phases of construction—heavy, general building, and special trade—reported increased hiring activity over the month. Special trade contractors were the largest job providers, accounting for over 50.0 percent of the overall industry gain. Meanwhile, in the state's manufacturing sector, a number of industries, both in durables and nondurables production, posted employment declines. Losses, however, were moderated by hiring activity in food processing and chemical products.

The status of production workers employed in Maryland's factories remained fairly stable in May. Hours worked dropped slightly, by 0.1 of an hour, but still remained above the 40 hour mark at 40.1. This reduction in work schedules caused a slight drop, of $1.58, in weekly earnings, producing an average paycheck of $472.78 in May. Within the durable goods component, a slightly larger drop in work hours, from 41.7 to 41.5, reduced weekly paychecks by about $2.91 to $516.26 over the month. In industrial machinery, changes were more pronounced. Reductions of more than 1.5 hours in overtime diminished paychecks by more than $20.00 per week to $516.17. On the upside, workers in transportation equipment saw their paychecks increase by nearly $25.00 per week to $663.77, owing to an increase in work schedules coupled with a hike of $.38 in hourly pay rates. On the nondurables side, weekly hours and earnings measurements remained constant at 38.9 hours and $434.90. Within nondurables, the largest change occurred in rubber products where workweeks rose by a full hour to 43.0 and weekly wages increased by just over $14.00 to $430.00.

Among the service-producing industries, seasonal expansion boosted employment by an estimated 10,600 jobs in May. Trade employment, leading the expansion, added just over 6,000 jobs during May. Slightly more than 80.0 percent of the growth in the trade sector emanated from hiring activity in local eating and drinking establishments. General merchandise and building/garden supply stores also showed signs of vitality, producing a combined total of 900 jobs through May.

A number of seasonal activities in the services industries picked up in May with the beginning of the summer tourist season. Hotels and motels began to increase their workforces, amusement establishments added jobs and agricultural services responded to the increased demand for lawn and gardening services. Hiring activity in these industries more than compensated for declines in personal, educational and health services. Elsewhere on industry payrolls, the job market in the finance, insurance, and real estate sector opened up somewhat with the addition of about 900 jobs during May. Hiring was noted throughout the industry with like gains of 400 reported by both the finance and real estate components.

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(IN THOUSANDS)
MAY 1991

Industry	May 1991	April 1991	May 1990
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	2,172.6	2,160.5	2,191.5
Goods Producing	356.6	355.1	372.1
Mining	2.2	2.2	2.1
Construction	155.7	153.9	163.0
Heavy Construction	18.9	18.7	19.7
Manufacturing	198.7	199.0	207.0
Durable Goods	102.7	103.0	110.4
Lumber & Wood Products	4.0	4.0	4.2
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	8.2	8.3	8.7
Concrete, Gypsum, Plaster	5.2	5.2	5.4
Other Stone, Clay, & Glass	3.0	3.1	3.3
Primary Metal Industries	10.4	10.4	10.7
Blast Furnaces	8.7	8.7	9.0
Fabricated Metal Products	9.8	9.8	9.9
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	4.1	4.1	4.3
Other Fabricated Metal Products	4.6	4.6	4.6
Industrial Machinery	15.8	15.8	16.8
Refrigeration & Service Mach.	2.2	2.2	2.4
Other Industrial Machinery & Equipment	9.4	9.4	9.7
Electronic Equipment	14.6	14.6	16.3
Communications Equipment	4.3	4.3	4.5
Electronic Component	3.6	3.6	4.2
Other Electronic Equipment	6.7	6.7	7.6
Transportation Equipment	12.2	12.3	13.9
Motor Vehicles	5.0	5.1	5.6
Other Transportation	2.7	2.7	3.3
Instruments & Related	22.1	22.2	24.3
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	2.7	2.7	2.7
Nondurable Goods	96.0	96.0	96.6
Food & Kindred Products	25.0	24.6	24.3
Meat Products	6.0	5.9	5.6
Beverages	4.3	4.2	4.3
Other Food & Kindred	9.8	9.7	9.7
Textile Mill, Apparel	9.8	9.9	10.0
Paper & Allied Products	9.6	9.7	9.4
Printing & Publishing	27.7	27.9	28.7
Chemicals and Allied Products	13.7	13.6	13.8
Rubber & Miscellaneous	8.2	8.3	8.4
Other Nondurable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.0

Industry	May 1991	April 1991	May 1990
Service Producing	1,816.0	1,805.4	1,819.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	101.6	101.8	102.2
Transportation	57.0	57.2	57.7
Railroad Transportation	4.5	4.5	4.8
Trucking & Warehousing	29.1	29.3	29.0
Communications & Utilities	44.6	44.6	44.5
Communications	28.1	28.2	28.2
Electric, Gas, Sanitary	16.5	16.4	16.3
Trade	528.1	522.0	533.2
Wholesale Trade	107.8	108.0	109.3
Retail Trade	420.3	414.0	423.9
Building Materials, Garden Supplies	18.5	18.0	18.5
General Merchandise	42.9	42.5	44.2
Food Stores	65.7	66.1	65.2
Eating & Drinking Places	137.7	132.8	137.9
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	131.1	130.2	132.2
Finance	57.3	56.9	58.9
Depository Institutions	42.2	41.9	43.2
Commercial Banks	27.3	26.9	27.9
Insurance	39.0	38.9	38.4
Insurance Carriers	25.8	25.8	25.3
Real Estate	34.8	34.4	34.9
Services	626.8	625.0	623.1
Business Services	134.4	134.2	135.3
Health Services	161.9	162.2	157.4
Hospitals	79.8	79.8	77.2
Legal Services	16.0	15.9	15.9
Educational Services	36.3	37.0	36.2
Private Colleges, Universities	18.6	19.4	18.5
Total Government	428.4	426.4	428.7
Total Federal Government	133.3	132.7	138.1
Department of Defense	47.8	47.5	46.7
Other Federal Government	85.5	85.2	91.4
Total State & Local Government	295.1	293.7	290.6
Total State Government	100.5	101.0	97.8
State Education	34.3	34.7	31.5
Other State Government	66.2	66.3	66.3
Total Local Government	194.6	192.7	192.8
Local Education	118.9	116.8	117.0
Other Local Government	75.7	75.9	75.8

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Current data preliminary; previous month revised.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES
MAY 1991

Industry	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS		AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS		AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS	
	May 1991	April 1991	May 1991	April 1991	May 1991	April 1991
MARYLAND						
Manufacturing	40.1	40.2	$472.78	$474.36	$11.79	$11.80
Durable Goods	41.5	41.7	516.26	519.17	12.44	12.45
Lumber and Wood Products	39.2	38.9	346.92	350.49	8.85	9.01
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	44.1	44.3	501.86	501.48	11.38	11.32
Primary Metal Industries	41.1	41.1	667.88	668.70	16.25	16.27
Blast Furnaces	41.2	41.3	677.74	681.45	16.45	16.50
Fabricated Metals	40.9	40.6	432.72	433.20	10.58	10.67
Industrial Machinery	40.2	41.9	516.17	536.74	12.84	12.81
Electronic Equipment	45.0	45.7	410.40	427.75	9.12	9.36
Transportation Equipment	40.4	39.8	663.77	638.79	16.43	16.05
Instruments and Related Products	41.3	41.7	555.49	565.04	13.45	13.55
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	40.6	40.1	395.85	384.96	9.75	9.60
Nondurable Goods	38.9	38.9	434.90	434.90	11.18	11.18
Food and Kindred Products	39.1	39.2	405.47	408.46	10.37	10.42
Textile Mill, Apparel	35.7	35.1	270.61	263.95	7.58	7.52
Paper and Allied Products	42.4	42.0	499.47	499.80	11.78	11.90
Printing and Publishing	36.0	36.5	486.00	490.93	13.50	13.45
Chemicals and Allied Products	40.7	41.3	514.86	517.90	12.65	12.54
Rubber and Plastic Products	43.0	42.0	430.00	415.80	10.00	9.90
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA						
Manufacturing	40.8	40.8	$505.92	$501.43	$12.40	$12.29
Durable Goods	41.7	41.8	555.03	549.25	13.31	13.14
Nondurable Goods	39.8	39.7	455.71	452.58	11.45	11.40

REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

In the Baltimore Metro Area, the only region in the state to experience an employment decline, the number of unemployed workers rose by nearly 5,100 to reach 79,868 in May. With this increase, the regional jobless rate escalated from 6.2 percent to 6.6 percent. Layoffs in health services and manufacturing, coupled with semester break reductions at private colleges and universities, contributed to rising joblessness in a number of local jurisdictions. The unemployment impact fell disproportionately upon Baltimore City residents where an increase of nearly 3,400 in the jobless numbers pushed local unemployment up by nearly a full percentage point to 9.5 percent in May. Aside from the normal layoff activity associated with seasonal economics, Baltimore City's jobless statistics reacted to the closing of a local health care facility. Meanwhile, in Carroll, Harford, and Queen Anne's counties, unemployment rates declined through May as workers opted to leave the job market.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

In Maryland's D.C. Suburbs, more than 4,700 jobseekers entered the labor force during May. Employment, while expanding, grew at a rate considerably below that of the labor force, causing the unemployment count to rise by about 4,000 and the jobless rate to advance from 4.0 percent in April to 4.4 percent in May. Last year, joblessness in the region, although much lower at 2.9 percent, rose by a like 0.4 percentage points. All of the area's local jurisdictions, with the exception of Frederick County where labor market conditions remained relatively stable, contributed to the regional unemployment upturn. In Prince George's County, layoffs in educational services, real estate and business services prompted unemployment to rise to an eight year high of 5.0 percent in May. Calvert County's rate, the highest in the region, rose to 7.2 percent, with layoffs reported in food stores fueling this increase.

WESTERN MARYLAND

Western Maryland's job market remained on a relatively even keel during May, with the jobless rate holding steady at 8.7 percent. During May, the regional labor force expanded by an estimated 460 jobseekers to reach its highest level since the summer of 1990. Growth in employment accommodated about 90.0 percent of this labor force increase. While the region's unemployment count did rise by about 55 people, this increase was not substantial enough to alter May's jobless rate. Locally, unemployment trends were mixed. The jobless rate in Allegany held at 9.6 percent while, in Garrett, increased hiring activity lowered unemployment from 10.4 percent to 9.7 percent. In Washington County, a different scenario unfolded as manufacturing layoffs added workers to the jobless rolls, increasing the unemployment rate slightly from 7.9 percent to 8.1 percent.

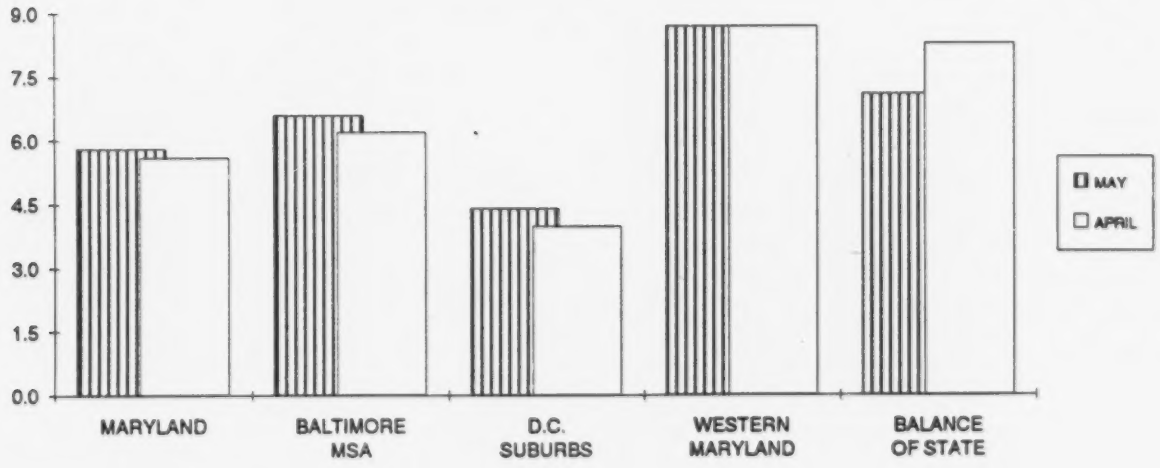
BALANCE OF STATE

In the Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland region, a moderate growth in employment, coupled with a slower than normal increase in the labor force, helped to lower joblessness in the area by more than a full percentage point to 7.1 percent in May. Seven of the nine counties within the region reported unemployment declines over the month, however, increasing employment was a contributing factor in lowering jobless rates in just four of these counties. In those counties where hiring did occur, seasonal recalls in food processing helped to reduce unemployment rates as did other seasonal hiring at eating and drinking establishments, in amusements and at hotels. The largest jobless decline attributable to employment expansion occurred in Worcester County where an employment gain of nearly 2,300 was more than enough to accommodate the influx of jobseekers and, at the same time, to reduce joblessness from 9.1 percent to 6.5 percent. Locally, unemployment rates in the region ranged from a low of 4.9 percent in Talbot County to a high of 11.1 percent in Somerset.

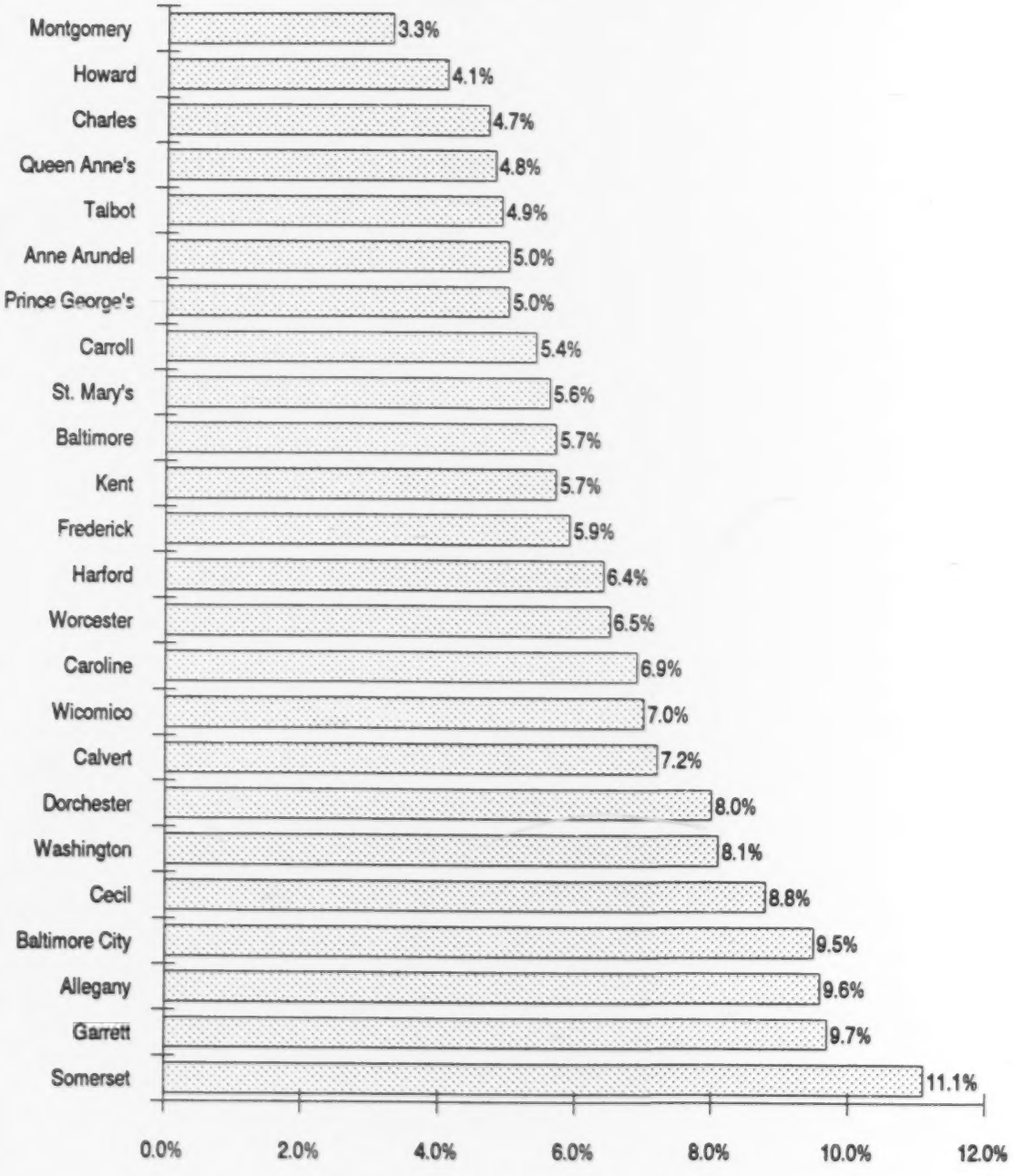
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT-MARYLAND AND REGIONS

	MAY 1991		APRIL 1991	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
MARYLAND	148,278	5.8	141,617	5.6
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	79,868	6.6	74,786	6.2
MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS	43,687	4.4	39,644	4.0
WESTERN MARYLAND	9,556	8.7	9,501	8.7
BALANCE OF STATE	15,164	7.1	17,684	8.3

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - MAY 1991



LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES-MAY 1991



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION
1100 NORTH EUTAW STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
MAY 1991

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	MAY	APRIL*	MAY	APRIL*	MAY	APRIL*	MAY	APRIL*	MAY 1990
MARYLAND	2,543,207	2,534,223	2,394,929	2,392,606	148,278	141,617	5.8	5.6	3.8
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,217,808	1,214,209	1,137,940	1,139,423	79,868	74,786	6.6	6.2	4.1
BALTIMORE CITY	348,841	345,854	315,687	316,099	33,154	29,755	9.5	8.6	6.5
ANNE ARUNDEL	216,343	215,777	205,557	205,825	10,786	9,952	5.0	4.6	2.8
BALTIMORE	394,048	393,226	371,617	372,101	22,431	21,125	5.7	5.4	3.7
CARROLL	63,734	63,894	60,311	60,389	3,423	3,505	5.4	5.5	2.6
HARFORD	84,435	85,336	79,041	79,144	5,394	6,192	6.4	7.3	3.9
HOWARD	94,419	94,104	90,512	90,630	3,907	3,474	4.1	3.7	1.9
QUEEN ANNE'S	15,988	16,017	15,214	15,234	774	783	4.8	4.9	2.6
D. C. AREA	1,002,169	997,423	958,482	957,779	43,687	39,644	4.4	4.0	2.9
CALVERT	23,981	23,844	22,256	22,240	1,725	1,604	7.2	6.7	3.5
CHARLES	47,927	47,651	45,662	45,629	2,265	2,022	4.7	4.2	2.5
FREDERICK	78,389	78,388	73,765	73,711	4,624	4,677	5.9	6.0	3.1
MONTGOMERY	427,847	426,187	413,825	413,521	14,022	12,666	3.3	3.0	2.3
PRINCE GEORGE'S	424,028	421,353	402,975	402,679	21,053	18,674	5.0	4.4	3.4
WESTERN MARYLAND	109,256	108,796	99,700	99,295	9,556	9,501	8.7	8.7	5.8
ALLEGANY	33,324	33,032	30,136	29,862	3,188	3,170	9.6	9.6	7.2
GARRETT	14,110	14,011	12,743	12,554	1,367	1,457	9.7	10.4	6.8
WASHINGTON	61,822	61,753	56,821	56,879	5,001	4,874	8.1	7.9	4.7
BALANCE OF STATE	213,970	213,795	198,806	196,111	15,164	17,684	7.1	8.3	5.3
CAROLINE	14,468	14,381	13,476	13,364	992	1,017	6.9	7.1	3.8
CECIL	36,862	37,110	33,612	32,946	3,250	4,164	8.8	11.2	6.2
DORCHESTER	17,066	17,468	15,694	15,962	1,372	1,506	8.0	8.6	6.2
KENT	9,527	9,620	8,985	9,012	542	608	5.7	6.3	4.2
ST. MARY'S	43,348	43,196	40,899	40,988	2,449	2,208	5.6	5.1	3.5
SOMERSET	13,390	12,973	11,905	11,355	1,485	1,618	11.1	12.5	11.4
TALBOT	17,354	17,526	16,503	16,718	851	808	4.9	4.6	3.9
WICOMICO	39,644	41,069	36,861	37,172	2,783	3,897	7.0	9.5	5.4
WORCESTER	22,311	20,452	20,871	18,594	1,440	1,858	6.5	9.1	5.5
UNITED STATES**	124,857,000	124,727,000	116,624,000	116,678,000	8,233,000	8,049,000	6.6	6.5	5.1

*Estimates for the state are revised.
**Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY--BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(IN THOUSANDS)
BY REGION--MAY 1991

Industry	BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA		MARYLAND PORTION D.C. SUBURBS		WESTERN MARYLAND		BALANCE OF STATE	
	May 1991	April 1991	May 1991	April 1991	May 1991	April 1991	May 1991	April 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,147.9	1,145.4	778.9	774.6	94.0	93.4	143.8	139.9
Goods Producing	197.5	197.7	101.1	100.2	21.8	22.0	33.3	32.6
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.2
Construction	72.5	71.7	65.1	64.0	5.5	5.6	10.2	9.8
Manufacturing	124.5	125.5	35.4	35.6	15.5	15.6	22.9	22.6
Durable Goods	68.7	69.2	17.7	17.8	7.1	7.2	8.7	8.7
Nondurable Goods	55.8	56.3	17.7	17.8	8.4	8.4	14.2	13.9
Service Producing	950.4	947.7	677.8	674.4	72.2	71.4	110.5	107.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	55.9	55.9	33.9	33.9	5.3	5.2	7.3	7.2
Trade	266.5	263.5	197.2	196.3	26.4	26.2	36.3	34.6
Wholesale Trade	62.6	62.7	35.1	35.4	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0
Retail Trade	203.9	200.8	162.1	160.9	21.4	21.2	31.2	29.6
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	75.2	75.0	45.8	45.6	3.2	3.2	5.1	5.0
Services	332.7	333.4	235.0	234.7	21.7	21.5	35.0	34.0
Total Government	220.1	219.9	165.9	163.9	15.6	15.3	26.8	26.5
Federal	51.0	50.6	73.7	73.0	1.8	1.8	6.9	6.8
State	74.1	74.0	17.7	17.8	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.6
Local	95.0	95.3	74.5	73.1	8.6	8.5	14.6	14.1

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

	May 1991	April 1991	May 1990
Initial Claims	26,257	24,617	19,133
Weeks Claimed	298,313	367,224	155,309
First Payments	10,723	12,252	6,971
Final Payments	4,444	4,446	2,164
Weeks Paid	239,064	286,332	138,817
Net Benefit Amount	$42,698,415	$51,256,767	$19,432,655
Average Check Amount	$178.61	$179.01	$139.99

Following three months of consecutive declines, the number of initial claims increased by 6.7 percent to reach 26,257 in May. Last year, the initial claims count, while substantially lower at 19,133, increased by a much greater 19.0 percent over the month. While initial claims rose, the numbers of both weeks claimed and weeks paid declined over the month. A drop of about 18.8 percent in the number of weeks claimed lowered May's count to 298,313. Meanwhile, the number of weeks paid dropped back by nearly 47,300 to 239,064, reducing the net benefit outlay through May by about $8.5 million. About 80.0 percent of all weekly claims filed during May resulted in compensation, with payments averaging about $178.61, down slightly from April's weekly benefit check of $179.01. Nearly 4.5 percent of all checks paid during May represented first pays while 1.9 percent accounted for final payments, up from April's corresponding payment ratios of 4.3 percent and 1.5 percent, respectively.

REGIONAL INDICATORS
MAY 1991

	BMA	DC Suburbs	Western Maryland	Balance of State
First Pays	5,649	2,567	877	790
Final Pays	2,337	995	349	358
Weeks Paid	123,285	56,108	19,110	21,885
Average Check Amount	$179.94	$187.93	$165.11	$148.57

Weekly payments declined in each of the state's four regions during May, with the largest decline, of about 26.0 percent, occurring in the Balance of State area. Within the region, payment activity dropped off in each of the local offices, with reductions at the Snow Hill unemployment office accounting for about one-fourth of the overall regional decline. Reflecting the differences in pay scales in a rural setting as opposed to a metropolitan area, claimants filing in the Balance of State area were paid about $40.00 less per week than those in the D.C. suburbs where checks averaged $187.93 in May.

Maryland
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U.S.MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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Inc.
Att: Louis Gearhart (SRI)
Suite 800
4520 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814

ADDRESS CHANGE:

- ☐ Remove from mailing list
- ☐ Change as shown above

Please send any address changes
to the address in the upper left hand corner.